

## Appointment

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**From:** Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]

**Sent:** 1/8/2020 10:02:35 PM

**Subject:** Loesel, Matthew TPC - Port Neches

**Start:** 11/28/2019 6:00:00 AM

**End:** 12/3/2019 6:00:00 AM

**Show Time As:** Busy

**Recurrence:** (none)

Message

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**From:** Acosta, Gerardo [Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/14/2019 2:47:12 AM  
**Subject:** FW: TPC Group Management Update - December 13, 2019 Final Update  
**Attachments:** TPCGroupManagementUpdate121319\_FINAL.pdf

Good evening,

Please see the attached Final Management Update for the TPC Group.

Regards,

Gerardo Acosta

Staff Director,  
Office of Communities, Tribes, and  
Environmental Assessment  
US EPA Region VI (OCTEA)  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75270

214.665.8042 (desk)  
469.520.7752 (mobile)

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**TPC Group Plant Explosion and Fire Update  
Port Neches, Texas  
December 13, 2019 Final Update**

**Executive Overview:**

- December 12, 2019, Unified Command transitioned to a 48-hour operational period.
- Since the last update, schools in the Port Neches-Groves ISD continue to remain open. Air monitoring teams from TPC (CTEH), TCEQ, and EPA continued to perform community air monitoring in the area of the schools daily as prescribed in the air monitoring plan for the schools (prior to the start of the school day, during, and after).
- On the evening of December 9, 2019, EPA, ATSDR, and Texas Poison Center Network participated in a Port Neches-Groves ISD board meeting; providing updates on response status and answering questions or concerns.
- The ATSDR team demobilized on December 11, 2019 after providing support through engaging local health officials and addressing questions on human-health concerns.
- Two low-volume / low-pressure fires reported by TPC on December 6, 2019, continue to burn. These fires appear to pose no threat and will be allowed to burn out on their own.
- CTEH has continued air monitoring in the work area for 1,3-butadiene:
  - Conducted 2,010 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 9, 2019 thru 0815 on December 13, 2019. Sixty-one detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 9.42 ppm.
- CTEH has continued air monitoring in the community for 1,3-butadiene:
  - Conducted 5,780 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 9, 2019 thru 0815 on December 13, 2019. Seventy-two detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 1.27 ppm.
- EPA continued community handheld air monitoring from December 9, 2019 thru December 12, 2019 with a team on standby until December 13, 2019. No concentrations above the action level have been detected in the community by EPA teams since December 5, 2019.
- ASPECT was demobilized on the evening of December 9, 2019 after conducting aerial air monitoring in the vicinity of the Site and downwind community since November 27.
- EPA conducted daily surface water sampling from December 9, 2019 thru December 12, 2019. EPA collected surface water samples at 5 locations in the affected canal up to the Neches River and 1 surface location upstream of the incident. No exceedances have been observed since the last report.
- TPC continues responding to reports to the hotline, recovering debris and sampling for asbestos.
- As of December 12, 2019, there have been no wildlife hotline calls for 120 hours. Wildlife Response personnel are on call, with no EOC presence since December 9, 2019.
- On December 11, 2019, Unified Command (UC) approved the Environmental

- Assessment Reduction Plan, which reduces water sampling efforts.
- On December 11, 2019, UC approved the Preliminary Data Summary for the Reduction of Air Monitoring and Sampling Activities Plan, which reduces the air monitoring and sampling efforts to a one-mile radius from the Site.
  - As of December 13, TPC has reported three tanks (33, 35, and 36) with low to no pressurized vapor emission leaks. Listing (leaning) tank 33 containing high butane raffinate, which is being assessed to secure the tank for access to determine leak location. Tank 35 has a leaking flange. Tank 36 has leaking relief valve. No resulting community air monitoring measurements or off-site impacts observed from these three tanks.

Following discussions with TCEQ and TPC regarding current Site conditions, the EPA FOSC transitioned oversight to TCEQ SOSC for long-term remediation and consequence management on December 13, 2019, due to site conditions. Community air monitoring results have been below community action levels since December 6, 2019 and no new surface water impacts from the facility have been observed since the first week of the response. TPC will notify the EPA FOSC when the three leaking tanks have been secured and will provide a final report upon completion of the response effort. The EPA FOSC may reactivate Unified Command in the event any emergencies arise during the follow up work by TPC. The transition plan was signed by EPA, TCEQ, and TPC and transmitted to TPC on December 13, 2019 at 1000.

**This is the Final Management Update.**

Message

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**From:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/8/2020 1:30:01 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]; Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: US EPA Region 6 News Release - Story Map

Speaking of story maps....This was in my email and I stumbled onto it just now. It was unread. I clearly missed it in real time.

**WREN STENGER**  
**DIRECTOR, SUPERFUND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**EPA REGION 6 DALLAS, TEXAS**  
**214.665.6583**

---

**From:** Region 6 Press <noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 29, 2019 3:44 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** US EPA Region 6 News Release - Story Map

### **EPA and TCEQ Announce Story Map Resource**

***Interactive tool provides easy access for TPC Group Plant Explosion fire data***

**EPA Media** [R6Press@epa.gov](mailto:R6Press@epa.gov) or 214 665-2200

**TCEQ Media**, 512-239-5000

**DALLAS** – (November 29, 2019) - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) announce an interactive resource to help keep the public updated and informed about the response activities for the TPC Group Plant Explosion in Port Neches, Texas.

The resource, a collaborative, interactive “story map,” can be viewed on EPA’s website at [response.epa.gov/south4groupfire](https://response.epa.gov/south4groupfire). EPA and TCEQ’s response actions, as well as maps and photos are featured.

On November 27, 2019, in response to an explosion at the TPC facility, EPA, TCEQ, along with approximately 20 different agencies from the Federal, State, County and Local levels joined TPC in a Unified Command to secure the incident and protect the public and the environment. EPA and TCEQ continue to be onsite for the emergency response focused on providing the assistance and coordination needed to address on-site and off-site environmental impacts. EPA and TCEQ have been conducting air monitoring throughout the affected areas from the onset of the response.

TCEQ and the EPA have decades of experience responding to natural and man-made disasters. Both agencies are assisting in this response with equipment and expertise in response management. EPA has conducted ground level air monitoring with hand held equipment and the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology aircraft (ASPECT). The TCEQ continues to work around the clock and is posting air quality monitoring data at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/tpc-incident/air-quality-monitoring-tpc-port-neches-incident>.

## Connect with EPA Region 6

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eparegion6>

On Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EPAregion6>

Activities in EPA Region 6: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-6-south-central>

## Connect with the TCEQ

Updates on state data and activities:

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/tpc-incident/tpc-port-neches-plant-fire>

On Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/TexasCommissionOnEnvironmentalQuality>

On Twitter: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-6-south-central>

# # #

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).  
Environmental Protection Agency, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270 United States

▪

Message

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**From:** Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/6/2020 10:48:40 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]; Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

pulled this from the weekly. ?

On November 27, an explosion and subsequent fire occurred at the TPC Group facility in Port Neches, TX. The explosion was felt throughout the community. EPA mobilized to the site to join in Unified Command with Jefferson County, TCEQ and TPC. EPA performed handheld air monitoring as well as utilizing EPA's ASPECT aircraft. Due to material which overtopped the facility's outfall, EPA conducted water sampling along the drainage path. EPA remained in Unified Command until all of the fires were extinguished, air monitoring results showed no continued impact, and the drainage path presented no further threat.

Lisa Marie Price  
Deputy Director  
Superfund and Emergency Management Division  
US EPA Region 6  
214 665 6744

---

**From:** Fanning, Cynthia <fanning.cynthia@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 1:12 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>; Taheri, Diane <Taheri.Diane@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report



Wren -

The front office has taken its first look at the draft accomplishments report, and one of their notes is that we should have an item on Port Neches. Would you please send me a sentence?

\*\*\*\*\*

Cynthia Fanning  
Office of External Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
214-665-2142

\*\*\*\*\*

<!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]--> <!--[if !vml]--><!--[endif]-->

Message

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**From:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/6/2020 10:34:56 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Okay. Since they asked let's pull it together quickly and I will send up tomorrow by 10 am.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 4:28 PM, Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov> wrote:

I suspect that is the TPC facility in Port Neches that caught fire over Thanksgiving. That was in FY2020 so I didn't stick it in because I thought it was FY19 activities.

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**From:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:25 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Not ringing a bell? Was this an emergency response?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 1:12 PM, Fanning, Cynthia <[fanning.cynthia@epa.gov](mailto:fanning.cynthia@epa.gov)> wrote:

Wren -

The front office has taken its first look at the draft accomplishments report, and one of their notes is that we should have an item on Port Neches. Would you please send me a sentence?

\*\*\*\*\*  
Cynthia Fanning  
Office of External Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
214-665-2142  
\*\*\*\*\*

<image005.jpg>



<image006.jpg>

Message

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**From:** Young, Patrick (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) [pay9@cdc.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/30/2019 4:56:44 PM  
**To:** ran2@cdc.gov  
**CC:** Lyke, Jennifer L. (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) [jlf1@cdc.gov]; Louis, Egide (ATSDR/DCHI/CB) [pjy0@cdc.gov]; Cseh, Larry (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD) [loc3@cdc.gov]; Denton, Alaric C. (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD) [awd2@cdc.gov]; Edge, Charles (ATSDR/DTHHS/OD) [ibd7@cdc.gov]; Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** TPC Fire Explosion- cost recovery

Rich,

Just an FYI. Received a call from TPC company. They inquired about how soon we CDC/ATSDR plan to bill them to recover our cost. I let them know we are in partnership with EPA R6 and our cost accounting goes through EPA. They were happy with this response as they have been pushing EPA to get in all the bills so they can pay them. Apparently they hope to settle as fast as they can.

CAPT Patrick Young, MS, RS | U.S. Public Health Service | Regional Representative |pay9@cdc.gov  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry | Division of Community Health Investigations  
c/o EPA Region 6 | 1201 Elm Street| Dallas, Texas 75270  
Voice: 214-665-8562 | Thursday/Friday Alt phone: 214-577-3506  
\*email may come through as young.patrick@epa.gov

Message

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**From:** Acosta, Gerardo [Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/10/2019 4:22:28 PM  
**Subject:** TPC Group Update

Please note: The next Management Update will be issued on Friday, December 13, 2019. Thank you.

Message

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**From:** Acosta, Gerardo [Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/10/2019 12:17:31 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Update - Dec. 9  
**Attachments:** TPC Group Management Update\_December 9 2019\_1600 hours.pdf

Good afternoon,

Attached is update number fourteen from EPA. Feel free to send this to anyone who needs to get the information and let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Gerardo Acosta

Staff Director,  
Office of Communities, Tribes, and  
Environmental Assessment  
US EPA Region VI (OCTEA)  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75270

214.665.8042 (desk phone)  
469.520.7752 (mobile phone)

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**TPC Group Plant Explosion and Fire Update  
Port Neches, Texas  
December 9, 2019 1500 Update**

**Incident Overview:**

On November 27, 2019, a report was received from the National Response Center about an explosion at a facility in Port Neches, TX.

A second explosion occurred at approximately 1400 on November 27, 2019. Residents within a four-mile radius of the site were ordered to evacuate. The evacuation was lifted at 1000 on November 29, 2019.

**Executive Overview:**

- Starting on December 10, 2019, Unified Command will operate on a 48-hour operational period.
- On December 8, 2019, City of Port Neches, Port Neches-Groves Independent School District (ISD), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), EPA, TCEQ, and TPC participated in a round-table discussion to address air quality concerns by the ISD. The round-table discussion was followed by a tour of the Emergency Operations Center to display current response efforts by the unified command.
- Schools in Port Neches-Groves ISD reopened today, December 9, 2019. Air monitoring teams from TPC (CTEH), TCEQ, and EPA have coordinated to assure continuous community air monitoring in the area of the schools and respond with additional monitoring team resources when readings above the action level are detected.
- On the evening of December 9, 2019, EPA, ATSDR, and TPC will participate in Port Neches-Groves ISD board meeting.
- The ATSDR team continues to provide support, engage local health officials, and address questions on human-health related concerns.
- The two low-volume and low-pressure fires reported by TPC on December 6, 2019, continue to burn. The fires are fueled by what appears to be hydrogen reactors at the Site.
- CTEH has continued air monitoring in the work area for 1,3-butadiene:
  - Conducted 629 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 6, 2019 thru 1430 on December 7, 2019. 41 detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 2.38 ppm.
  - Conducted 650 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 7, 2019 thru 1430 on December 8, 2019. 22 detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 0.62 ppm.
  - Conducted 630 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 8, 2019 thru 1430 on December 9, 2019. Fifteen detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 0.91 ppm.

- CTEH has continued air monitoring in the community for 1,3-butadiene:
  - Conducted 2,078 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 6, 2019 thru 1430 on December 7, 2019. No detections were recorded.
  - Conducted 2,110 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 7, 2019 thru 1430 on December 8, 2019. 50 detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 0.48 ppm.
  - Conducted 2,256 air monitoring readings from 1430 on December 8, 2019 thru 1430 on December 9, 2019. Four detections were recorded with a maximum reading of 0.5 ppm.
- EPA continued community handheld air monitoring from December 7, 2019 thru December 9, 2019. No concentrations above the action level have been detected in the community since December 5, 2019.
- ASPECT conducted a fly-over of the site at noon on December 7, 2019 and isobutylene was detected at a concentration of 1.63 part per million (ppm) which is less than the TCEQ short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values of 270 ppm. The report indicates that the winds at the time of the measurement were from the north and not downwind of the facility. ASPECT was not able to conduct a fly-over on December 8, 2019 and December 9, 2019, due to unfavorable weather conditions.
- EPA continued daily surface water sampling from December 7, 2019 thru December 9, 2019. EPA collected 5 surface water samples in the affected canal up to the Neches River and 1 surface water sample upstream of the incident.
- TPC continues responding to reports to the hotline for recovering debris from the explosions. To date, TPC reports approximately 65 homes have had the debris removed and sampled.
- As of December 9, 2019, no new calls to the Wildlife Hotline have been reported in the past 60 hours. The Wildlife Response Services contractor has been stood down at the recommendation of the Wildlife team.
- On December 9, 2019, EPA, TCEQ, and Texas Parks and Wildlife approved the Unified Command Cleanup transition, endpoint and final assessment protocol plan developed by the SCAT Coordinator.
- On December 9, 2019, EPA requested TPC to provide a tank assessment status for each tank on the Site.
- The next Management Update will be issued on Friday, December 12, 2019.

Message

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**From:** Acosta, Gerardo [Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/8/2019 3:41:21 PM  
**Subject:** FW: TPC Group 12/7 Update

Good morning,

No updates this weekend. Next management update will be Monday. If site conditions change, we'll send out an on the spot update.

Regards,

Gerardo Acosta

Staff Director,  
Office of Communities, Tribes, and

Environmental Assessment

US EPA Region VI (OCTEA)  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500

Dallas, TX 75270

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Message

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**From:** Acosta, Gerardo [Acosta.Gerardo@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 12/7/2019 3:19:28 AM  
**Subject:** FW: Today's Update - Dec. 6  
**Attachments:** TPC Group Management Update\_December 6 2019\_1500.pdf

Good evening,

Attached is update number thirteen from EPA. Feel free to send this to anyone who needs to get the information and let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Gerardo Acosta

Staff Director,  
Office of Communities, Tribes, and  
Environmental Assessment  
US EPA Region VI (OCTEA)  
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75270

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**TPC Group Plant Explosion and Fire Update  
Port Neches, Texas  
December 6, 2019 1500 Update**

**Incident Overview:**

On November 27, 2019, a report was received from the National Response Center about an explosion at a facility in Port Neches, TX.

A second explosion occurred at approximately 1400 on November 27, 2019. Residents within a four-mile radius of the site were ordered to evacuate. The evacuation was lifted at 1000 on November 29, 2019.

**Executive Overview:**

- Unified Command continues to run a 24-hour operational period: 0600 to 0600.
- On December 6, 2019, TPC reported two small residual fires at the Site. The fires are expected to burn for 12 to 24 hours.
- On December 6, 2019, TPC reported that five radiation sources are present on the site. Only one of the five sources (2 millicurie) is located in the impacted area and has been confirmed to be secured in a closed source container.
- Schools in Port Neches-Groves ISD were out of session on Friday December 6, 2019 and plan to reopen on Monday December 9, 2019.
- The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) team and EPA met with the Port Neches-Grove ISD to discuss health concerns prior to reopening the schools next week. ATSDR and EPA will attend the school board meeting on Monday, December 9, 2019.
- CTEH has conducted 474 air monitoring readings in the work area for 1,3-butadiene since 1430 on December 5, 2019. As of approximately 1430 hours on December 6, 2019, fifteen detections were recorded in the work area with a maximum reading of 3.59 ppm.
- CTEH has conducted 1,726 air monitoring readings for 1,3-butadiene in the community since 1430 on December 5, 2019. As of approximately 1430 hours on December 6, 2019, four detections were recorded in the community with a maximum reading of 0.7 ppm.
- ASPECT conducted a fly-over of the site at noon on December 6, 2019 and reported no detections. ASPECT is not scheduled for a second flight for today.
- On December 6, 2019, EPA collected 5 surface water samples in the affected canal up to the Neches River and 1 surface water sample upstream of the incident.
- The surface water samples collected on November 30, 2019 and December 1, 2019 were analyzed for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), total organic carbon (TOC), glycols, and oil and grease (O&G). The results from the sampling events were compared to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Surface Water

Quality Standards (WQS), or to TCEQ Texas Risk Reduction Program surface water protective concentration levels (PCLs), if a WQS was not available for a chemical.

- On November 30, 2019, the surface water sample collected at TPC-01 exceeded the PCL for methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) and the surface water sample collected at TPC-02 exceeded the PCL for benzene and for MTBE. No PCLs were exceeded for the samples collected from the Neches River.
  - On December 1, 2019, the surface water sample collected at TPC-01 and TPC-02 exceeded the PCL for MTBE. No PCLs were exceeded for the samples collected from the Neches River.
- TPC continues responding to reports and recovering debris from the explosions. To date, TPC reports approximately 46 homes have reported debris concerns on their properties to the TPC hotline.
- On December 6, 2019, EPA accompanied debris collection and dust sampling teams at a commercial facility and a residence about two miles southwest of the Site to observe methodology.
- A Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) team continued assessments on December 6, 2019 along the 201 Canal and Star Lake Canal. The teams included state and facility representation. The SCAT Coordinator is currently developing a Unified Command Cleanup transition, endpoint and final assessment protocol plan for Divisions A-E.
- The next Management Update will be issued on Monday, December 9, 2019.

Message

---

**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 12/13/2019 5:10:11 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]; Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]; Chris Petersen [Petersen.Chris@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** FW: South 4 Group Fire Transition  
**Attachments:** scan0001.pdf

FYSA

---

**From:** Adams, Adam <Adams.Adam@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 13, 2019 10:49 AM  
**To:** 'David Bordelon' <David.Bordelon@westonsolutions.com>; james.collins@westonsolutions.com; Cobb, Derrick <Derrick.Cobb@WestonSolutions.com>; Cook, David <David.Cook@WestonSolutions.com>; 'David Crow' <David.Crow@WestonSolutions.com>; Lindsey, Austin <Austin.Lindsey@WestonSolutions.com>; Daniel Tighe <Daniel.Tighe@WestonSolutions.com>  
**Cc:** Delgado, Eric <Delgado.Eric@epa.gov>; Loesel, Matthew <loesel.matthew@epa.gov>; Fisher, Bray <fisher.kelsey@epa.gov>; Patel, Anish <patel.anish@epa.gov>; Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>; Turner, Philip <Turner.Philip@epa.gov>; Hidalgo, Chelsea <Hidalgo.Chelsea@epa.gov>; Rauscher, Jon <Rauscher.Jon@epa.gov>; Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: South 4 Group Fire Transition

Team,

Please see attached transition plan signed and executed this morning. Please complete any outstanding items as soon as possible.

Thanks for your work. Please communicate this appreciate throughout the EPA response for another emergency response conducted without injury.

If you have any constructive feedback for this response, please let me know in January.

No need to respond to this email.

Very Respectfully,  
Adam

Message

---

**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 1/8/2020 1:35:49 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]; Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: US EPA Region 6 News Release - Story Map

Yes, it has both EPA and TCEQ data.

---

**From:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 08, 2020 7:30 AM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>; Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: US EPA Region 6 News Release - Story Map

Speaking of story maps....This was in my email and I stumbled onto it just now. It was unread. I clearly missed it in real time.

**WREN STENGER**  
**DIRECTOR, SUPERFUND AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**EPA REGION 6 DALLAS, TEXAS**  
**214.665.6583**

---

**From:** Region 6 Press <noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 29, 2019 3:44 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** US EPA Region 6 News Release - Story Map

## **EPA and TCEQ Announce Story Map Resource**

***Interactive tool provides easy access for TPC Group Plant Explosion fire data***

**EPA Media** [R6Press@epa.gov](mailto:R6Press@epa.gov) or 214 665-2200

**TCEQ Media**, 512-239-5000

**DALLAS** – (November 29, 2019) - Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) announce an interactive resource to help keep the public updated and informed about the response activities for the TPC Group Plant Explosion in Port Neches, Texas.

The resource, a collaborative, interactive “story map,” can be viewed on EPA’s website at [response.epa.gov/south4groupfire](https://response.epa.gov/south4groupfire). EPA and TCEQ’s response actions, as well as maps and photos are featured.

On November 27, 2019, in response to an explosion at the TPC facility, EPA, TCEQ, along with approximately 20 different agencies from the Federal, State, County and Local levels joined TPC in a Unified Command to secure the incident and protect the public and the environment. EPA and TCEQ continue to be onsite for the emergency response focused on providing the assistance and coordination needed to address on-site and off-site

environmental impacts. EPA and TCEQ have been conducting air monitoring throughout the affected areas from the onset of the response.

TCEQ and the EPA have decades of experience responding to natural and man-made disasters. Both agencies are assisting in this response with equipment and expertise in response management. EPA has conducted ground level air monitoring with hand held equipment and the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology aircraft (ASPECT). The TCEQ continues to work around the clock and is posting air quality monitoring data at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/tpc-incident/air-quality-monitoring-tpc-port-neches-incident>.

#### **Connect with EPA Region 6**

**On Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/eparegion6>

**On Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/EPAregion6>

**Activities in EPA Region 6:** <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-6-south-central>

#### **Connect with the TCEQ**

**Updates on state data and activities:**

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/response/tpc-incident/tpc-port-neches-plant-fire>

**On Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TexasCommissionOnEnvironmentalQuality>

**On Twitter:** <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-region-6-south-central>

**###**

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).  
Environmental Protection Agency, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75270 United States

▪

Message

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**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 1/7/2020 1:39:10 AM  
**To:** Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

That's the one I was going to look for tomorrow and send you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 4:48 PM, Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov> wrote:

pulled this from the weekly. ?

On November 27, an explosion and subsequent fire occurred at the TPC Group facility in Port Neches, TX. The explosion was felt throughout the community. EPA mobilized to the site to join in Unified Command with Jefferson County, TCEQ and TPC. EPA performed handheld air monitoring as well as utilizing EPA's ASPECT aircraft. Due to material which overtopped the facility's outfall, EPA conducted water sampling along the drainage path. EPA remained in Unified Command until all of the fires were extinguished, air monitoring results showed no continued impact, and the drainage path presented no further threat.

Lisa Marie Price  
Deputy Director  
Superfund and Emergency Management Division  
US EPA Region 6  
214 665 6744

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**From:** Fanning, Cynthia <fanning.cynthia@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 1:12 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>; Taheri, Diane <Taheri.Diane@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Wren -

The front office has taken its first look at the draft accomplishments report, and one of their notes is that we should have an item on Port Neches. Would you please send me a sentence?

\*\*\*\*\*

Cynthia Fanning  
Office of External Affairs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6

214-665-2142

\*\*\*\*\*

<!--[if !vml]-->

<image002.jpg>

<!--[endif]--> <!--[if !vml]-->

<image004.jpg>

<!--[endif]-->

Message

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**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 1/6/2020 10:45:55 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Ok

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 4:34 PM, Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov> wrote:

Okay. Since they asked let's pull it together quickly and I will send up tomorrow by 10 am.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 4:28 PM, Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov> wrote:

I suspect that is the TPC facility in Port Neches that caught fire over Thanksgiving. That was in FY2020 so I didn't stick it in because I thought it was FY19 activities.

---

**From:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:25 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Not ringing a bell? Was this an emergency response?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 1:12 PM, Fanning, Cynthia  
<[fanning.cynthia@epa.gov](mailto:fanning.cynthia@epa.gov)> wrote:

Wren -

The front office has taken its first look at the draft accomplishments report, and one of their notes is that we should have an item on Port Neches. Would you please send me a sentence?



\*\*\*\*\*  
Cynthia Fanning  
Office of External Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
214-665-2142  
\*\*\*\*\*

<image005.jpg>

<image006.jpg>

Message

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**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 1/6/2020 10:28:51 PM  
**To:** Stenger, Wren [stenger.wren@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Price, Lisa [Price.Lisa@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

I suspect that is the TPC facility in Port Neches that caught fire over Thanksgiving. That was in FY2020 so I didn't stick it in because I thought it was FY19 activities.

---

**From:** Stenger, Wren <stenger.wren@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:25 PM  
**To:** Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Price, Lisa <Price.Lisa@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Need a Port Neches writeup for the Accomplishments Report

Not ringing a bell? Was this an emergency response?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2020, at 1:12 PM, Fanning, Cynthia <[fanning.cynthia@epa.gov](mailto:fanning.cynthia@epa.gov)> wrote:

Wren -

The front office has taken its first look at the draft accomplishments report, and one of their notes is that we should have an item on Port Neches. Would you please send me a sentence?

\*\*\*\*\*

Cynthia Fanning  
Office of External Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6  
214-665-2142

\*\*\*\*\*

<image005.jpg>

<image006.jpg>

Message

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**From:** Carroll, Craig [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF7900E73BFB429C9BF46DC3B22FC12C-CARROLL, CRAIG]  
**Sent:** 12/10/2019 9:07:10 PM  
**To:** Kelly Cook [kelly.cook@tceq.texas.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: TPC Update 12: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

Thanks Kelly

---

**From:** Kelly Cook <kelly.cook@tceq.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 10, 2019 9:33 AM  
**To:** Beth Seaton <Beth.Seaton@tceq.texas.gov>; Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>; Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>; Adams, Adam <Adams.Adam@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** TPC Update 12: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

FYI

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**From:** Jonathan Walling <jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 9, 2019 8:37 PM  
**To:** HSNotify <HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov>; IGR <IGR@tceq.texas.gov>  
**Subject:** Update 12: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

**Update 12:**

On December 9, 2019, two small fires discovered in the reactor area on December 6, 2019 continue to burn. TPC has determined there is no visible level of material [crude butadiene (56%)] remaining in the reactors. The material is under pressure and a decision was made to let the material burn-out. The area is being monitored by drone footage. Air monitoring is continuing in the community and no levels have exceeded the action level for 1,3-butadiene (0.5 ppm). On December 9, 2019, CTEH (TPC contractor) conducted air monitoring at the schools in the area and found no levels of concern. CTEH will continue monitoring at the local schools.

TPC has identified twelve tanks that were impacted by the fire. Plans are underway to safely transfer all remaining materials from the site, after conducting mechanical integrity inspections of tanks. All tanks containing materials are being evaluated and prioritized for product transfer. TPC started injecting an oxygen scavenger inhibitor called DEHA (Diethylhydroxylamine) into the impacted tanks to stabilize the butadiene. Approximately 20 gallons of the inhibitor will be injected into each tank. It is estimated that it will take a minimum of 110 hours to complete the injection of the inhibitor into the twelve impacted tanks. Options to safely transport materials from the site are being assessed.

Firefighting water continues to be applied to keep equipment cool. TPC continues to have personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). No wastewater has overflowed since December 7, 2019. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique evaluations were conducted today, December 9, 2019. No major impacts have been documented to date.

TPC contractors (CTEH) continue conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 10, 2019. Asbestos air monitoring continues in Jefferson County and Orange County. Sample results continue to show no asbestos. In addition, all of the swipe tests conducted in the community have shown no signs of asbestos fibers. Sampling will continue in the area.

On December 9, 2019, the Huntsman Port Neches facility adjacent to TPC notified the Beaumont regional office that they plan to conduct maintenance turn-around on the PO/MTBE unit (originally scheduled for January 2020) starting December 10, 2019. This facility has been down since the TPC explosion and they do not know when they will be able to resume operations; therefore, they plan on conducting maintenance on the unit while the site is not in operation. There will be flaring at both the elevated and ground flares located during this maintenance activity. The facility has notified the Unified Command and the local officials. In addition, they have provided notice on the STAN network to inform the public of this activity. The region is ensuring that Judge Branick is aware of the activity.

The region continues to staff the EOC and provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi have been assisting with air monitoring. The EPA plans to demobilize the ASPECT aircraft on December 10, 2019.

#### **Update 11:**

On December 8, 2019, two small fires discovered in the reactor area on December 6, 2019 continue to burn. TPC has determined there is no visible level of material [crude butadiene (56%)] remaining in the reactors. The material is under pressure, and a decision was made to let the material burn out. The area is being monitored by drone footage. Air monitoring is continuing in the community and no levels have exceeded the action level for 1,3-butadiene (0.5 ppm).

TPC has identified twelve tanks that were impacted by the fire. Plans are underway to safely transfer all remaining materials from the site, after conducting mechanical integrity inspections of tanks. All tanks containing materials are being evaluated and prioritized for product transfer. To further secure and safely transfer remaining materials from the site, technical experts with TPC plan to introduce inhibitors to stabilize materials being transferred. They hope to start addition of the inhibitors this week. Options to safely transport materials from the site are being assessed.

Firefighting water continues to be applied to keep equipment cool. TPC continues to have personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). No wastewater has overflowed since December 7, 2019. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique evaluations were conducted today, December 8, 2019. No major impacts have been documented to date.

TPC contractors (CTEH) continue conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 9, 2019. Asbestos air monitoring continues in Jefferson County and Orange County. Sample results continue to show no asbestos. In addition, all of the swipe tests conducted in the community have shown no signs of asbestos fibers. Sampling will continue in the area.

On December 8, 2019, a meeting was held at the EOC to provide information and answer questions from the Port Neches Groves ISD and the City of Port Neches officials. Jefferson County Judge Branick participated in the meeting along with EPA, TCEQ, TPC, ATSDR, CTEH, and the Public Health Department. A status update was given and there was a discussion of the air monitoring conducted in the area. On December 8, 2019, CTEH (TPC contractor) conducted air monitoring at the schools in the area and found no levels of concern. CTEH will continue monitoring at the local schools. A decision was made to have a liaison dedicated to communication with the Port Neches Groves ISD. After the meeting, a decision was made to resume school on December 9, 2019.

The region continues to staff the EOC and provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi have been assisting with air monitoring.

#### **Update 10:**

On December 7, 2019, two small fires discovered in the reactor area on December 6, 2019 continue to burn. TPC has determined there is no visible level of material [crude butadiene (56%)] remain in the reactors. The material is under pressure, and a decision was made to let the material burn out. The area is being monitored by drone footage. Air monitoring is continuing in the community and no levels have exceeded the action level for 1,3-butadiene (0.5 ppm).

TPC has identified 12 tanks that were impacted by the fire. Plans are underway to safely transfer all remaining materials from the site, after conducting mechanical integrity inspections of tanks. All tanks containing materials are being evaluated and prioritized for product transfer. To further secure and safely transfer remaining materials from the site, technical experts with TPC plan to introduce inhibitors to stabilize materials being transferred. Options to safely transport materials from the site are being assessed.

Firefighting water continues to be applied to keep equipment cool. TPC continues to have personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). TPC added additional pumps and on December 7, 2019, the wastewater was not overflowing Outfall 201. A vacuum truck has been staged in the area to assist with preventing additional overflow. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique evaluations were conducted today, December 7, 2019. No major impacts have been documented to date.

TPC contractors (CTEH) continue conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 8, 2019. Asbestos air monitoring continues in Jefferson County and Orange County. Sample results continue to show no asbestos. In addition, all of the swipe tests conducted in the community have shown no signs of asbestos fibers. Sampling will continue in the area.

The region continues to staff the EOC and provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi have been assisting with air monitoring.

#### **Update 9:**

On December 6, 2019, two small fires were discovered in the reactor area. TPC used an OGIC camera to determine that there was approximately 2.5 feet of material remaining in the reactors [crude butadiene (56%)]. The material is under pressure and a decision was made to let the material burn out. At noon, it was estimated that the material would burn for another 14 hours. The area is being monitored by drone footage. Air monitoring is continuing in the community and no levels have exceeded the action level for 1,3-butadiene (0.5 ppm).

Firefighting water continues to be applied to keep equipment cool. TPC has personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). On December 6, 2019, wastewater was continuing to overflow Outfall 201. The overflow is due to application of water to keep equipment cool. TPC is working to stop the overflow by adding additional pumps. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) evaluations were conducted today, December 6, 2019. No major impacts have been documented to date.

TPC contractors (CTEH) continue conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 7, 2019. Asbestos air monitoring continues in Jefferson County and Orange County. Sample results continue to show no asbestos. In addition, all of the swipe tests conducted in the community have shown no signs of asbestos fibers. Sampling will continue in the area.

The region continues to staff the EOC and provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi have been assisting with air monitoring.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling

**Sent:** Thursday, December 5, 2019 8:46 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 8: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

**Update 8:**

On December 4, 2019, at 10:00 p.m., the City of Port Neches and Jefferson County Judge Branick issued a voluntary evacuation for all residents in the City of Port Neches due to elevated levels of 1,3-butadiene in some portions of the city. Air monitoring was conducted throughout the community during the night to assess the situation. Over 200 readings were over the action level for 1,3-butadiene (0.5 ppm). Spherical Tank 25 (containing crude butadiene feedstock) had a leaking relief valve (RV) which was causing the elevated levels in the community. On December 5, 2019, TPC was able to isolate the leaking RV which stopped the leak from the tank. Air monitoring immediately showed a significant reduction of butadiene levels. Since this was accomplished, the highest level of 1,3-butadiene in the community was 0.23 ppm. On December 5, 2019, the voluntary evacuation order was lifted at 12:29 p.m. Air monitoring is continuing in the community.

TPC has personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). On December 5, 2019, wastewater was continuing to overflow Outfall 201. The overflow is due to additional firewater being used on Tank 25, and the application of water to keep equipment cool. TPC is working to stop the overflow by adding additional pumps. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) evaluations were conducted today, December 5, 2019. No major impacts have been documented to date.

TPC contractors (CTEH) began conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 6, 2019. Asbestos air monitoring continues in Jefferson and Orange County. Sample results continue to show no asbestos. In addition, all of the swipe tests conducted in the community have shown no signs of asbestos fibers. Sampling will continue in the area.

The region continues to staff the EOC and provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi have been assisting with air monitoring and SCAT operations.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling <[jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 11:09 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 7: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/N The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi, as well as staff from the TCEQ's Critical Infrastructure Division's Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisting with air monitoring, Incident Command staffing, and SCAT operations.

Notification Report to State Legislators

**Update 7:**

On December 4, 2019, at approximately 5 pm, CTEH (TPC's contractor) monitored a sustained (at least 20 minutes) reading of 1.5 ppm 1,3-Butadiene in the neighborhood adjacent to the TPC facility at Gist and Saba Lane.

As a precaution, based on current wind conditions and on-going activities at the TPC site, Port Neches Fire Chief (Paul Nelson) issued a shelter-in-place for the City of Port Neches until 6 am on December 5, 2019. The situation will be monitored throughout the night and reevaluated at 5 am to determine what steps will be needed at that time.

Assistant Superintendent, Julie Gauthier, has stated that the Port Neches Independent School District has cancelled schools for the remainder of the week. In addition, all athletic events have been canceled. Ms. Gauthier stated that the cancelation will allow the current shelter-in-place to come to an end, and provide the district adequate time to retest the air quality in the schools before students and staff return.

The City of Port Neches and Jefferson County Judge Branick have issued a voluntary evacuation for all residents in the City of Port Neches due to elevated levels of 1,3-Butadiene. These elevated levels have been measured in some portions of the city. There is an expected shift in wind direction overnight, and high humidity will keep the vapors near the ground. The current levels being measured do not pose a serious health risk, but may cause dizziness, nausea, headaches, irritated eyes and throat. People experiencing any of these symptoms are encouraged to leave their location. Any of these symptoms experienced are reversible and will not have long term effects.

The current levels are not expected to pose a flammability or explosion risk.

The highest current and anticipated measurements have been identified from Saba Lane to Nall Street and north to Port Neches Avenue.

A temporary shelter for those needing a place to shelter has been established at Ford Park Arena, 5115 Interstate 10 S, Beaumont, TX 77705.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling <[jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, December 4, 2019 4:00 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 6: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

#### **Update 6:**

As December 4, 2019, the fire is currently extinguished. Firefighting water is being applied to keep equipment and debris cool, and to reduce fugitive emissions. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and the used firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. TPC is recirculating as much firewater as possible to reduce the amount being sent to the Joint WWTP.

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours/day throughout the area. On December 3, 2019, at approximately 8:19 p.m., CTEH (TPC Contractors) recorded an instantaneous reading of 50.0 ppm of 1,3-Butadiene within the facility fence line near the parking lots at the main gate of the facility. This is believed to be a direct result of spherical Tank 25 (containing Crude Butadiene Feedstock) that currently has a leaking relief valve (RV). Unified Command, including the County Judge, was notified and the strike team was deployed to the area. The strike team did not obtain any sustained action-level readings after the initial 50.0ppm 1,3-Butadiene reading. No elevated action-level readings were recorded within community areas. The leak was discovered via infrared drone overflights on December 3, 2019. To temporarily remedy the issue operations have directed water to be positioned to rain over Tank 25 to alleviate fugitive emissions. A plan is currently being developed to access and permanently seat the RV. It is currently unsafe to access Tank 25 via the attached stairway, per an engineering inspection conducted on December 4, 2019.

TPC now has personnel stationed at Outfall 201 to document and report overflow and sheening to Incident Command and the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). As of 12:30 p.m. on December 4, 2019, wastewater was continuing to

overflow Outfall 201. The overflow is due to additional firewater being used on Tank 25, and the application of water to keep equipment cool. TPC is working to stop the overflow by adding additional pumps. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) evaluations were conducted today, December 4, 2019. Surface water sampling was conducted in nearby canals and the Neches River on December 1 and 2, 2019. Sampling for the Port Neches and Groves drinking water systems was conducted on December 4, 2019 by TCEQ Region 10 staff.

TPC contractors (CTEH) began conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 5, 2019.

The Debris Removal and Waste Management Plans are being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi, as well as staff from the TCEQ's Critical Infrastructure Division's Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisting with air monitoring, Incident Command staffing, and SCAT operations.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling <[jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 3, 2019 7:49 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 5: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

#### **Update 5:**

There are currently no shelter-in-places or evacuations in effect. A designated safety zone has been established around the immediate incident area, including road blocks that restrict the public from entering restricted areas. Port Neches-Groves ISD classes resumed on December 3, 2019. Air monitoring has been increased in the areas surrounding nearby schools.

As of 11:00 a.m. on December 3, 2019, the fire was contained to approximately one visible spot fire. Firefighting water being used to fight the fire is being pumped from the LNVA Canal and the Neches River and is also being recycled, when possible, for firefighting needs. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and the used firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. TPC is recirculating as much firewater as possible to reduce the amount being sent to the Joint WWTP.

Overnight, a separator pump utilized for firewater recycling failed. This resulted in more water being sent to the Joint WWTP. As a result, on December 3, 2019, at 11:44 a.m., wastewater began overflowing Outfall 201. TPC is working to stop the flow. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) evaluations were conducted again today, December 3, 2019. Sheening has been noted in a wastewater canal adjacent to the facility. Plans for drinking water intake sampling is being coordinated for the Port Neches and Groves drinking water systems. The samples are being collected December 4, 2019.

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours/day throughout the area. On December 2, 2019, contractors recorded the following 1,3-Butadiene readings within the restricted access work zone area: 5.0ppm (5:35 p.m.), 1.33ppm (8:55 p.m.), 0.66ppm (9:10 p.m.), and 0.69ppm (11:10 p.m.). On December 2, 2019, within the plant's fence line (North Plant area) a reading of 2.92ppm 1,3-Butadiene was recorded. On December 3, 2019, CTEH (TPC Contractors) recorded a reading of 1.2ppm of 1,3-Butadiene at approximately 8:20 a.m., with a maximum reading of 1.35ppm 1,3-Butadiene at Port Neches Middle School during that time. The County Judge was notified, and the strike team deployed to the area. No further readings above action level (0.5ppm for 1,3-Butadiene and 5.0ppm for VOCs) were recorded.



Asbestos monitoring and sampling began on November 27, 2019, and will continue in impacted areas. On December 1, 2019, TPC contractors (CTEH) began conducting asbestos swipe sampling upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. Asbestos debris removal will continue on December 4, 2019.

The Debris Removal and Waste Management Plans are being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. The DDC was stood down on November 29, 2019. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi, as well as staff from TCEQ's Remediation Division and TCEQ's Critical Infrastructure Division's Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisting with air monitoring, Incident Command staffing, and SCAT operations.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling

**Sent:** Monday, December 2, 2019 4:19 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 4: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

#### **Update 4:**

There are currently no shelter-in-places or evacuations in effect. A designated safety zone remains in place around the immediate fire area. Port Neches-Groves ISD classes were cancelled for December 2, 2019 and plans for classes to resume will be further evaluated December 2, 2019..

As of 1:00 p.m., December 2, 2019, the fire is contained to approximately one visible spot fire. Firefighting water is being pumped from the LNVA Canal and the Neches River and is also being recycled, when possible, for firefighting needs. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. On December 2, 2019, at approximately 08:55am, noises were heard nearby the plant. The noises were determined to be the settling of impacted equipment. The settling of this equipment did not result in additional explosions or other issues. No injuries were reported.

There was a subsequent breach at Outfall 201, but as of 1:00 p.m. on December 2, 2019, the breach had ceased. All water is now being treated at the WWTP prior to discharge.

Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) is planned to be conducted on December 3, 2019. Sheening has been noted in a wastewater canal adjacent to the facility. Water sampling related to a reported fish kill was conducted on December 1-2, 2019 by TCEQ.

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours a day throughout the area. On December 1, 2019 at approximately 10:22 p.m., a measurement of 0.79 ppm 1,3-Butadiene was recorded at the intersection of 166/366 (restricted work zone area in Port Neches, TX). A measurement of PM2.5 (0.338 mg/m3) was also recorded. This is above action-level for the public of 0.132 mg/m3 and below action level for workers of 0.351 mg/m3. This was in a restricted work zone area and not in the community. This was caused due to hose placement while firefighting and was directly related to PM2.5 readings. Hoses were relocated for better vapor suppression, fire control and reestablished water flow/fire suppression, which minimized PM. The county judge was notified immediately and the strike team was deployed to confirm readings. No communities/public areas were impacted.

Asbestos debris removal continues today, December 2, 2019.

Plans including the Water Sampling Plan and the Environmental Sampling and Analysis Plan were approved December 1, 2019. The Debris Removal and Waste Management Plans are being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. The DDC was stood down on November 29, 2019. Staff from TCEQ regional offices in Houston and Corpus Christi, as well as staff from TCEQ's Remediation Division and TCEQ's Critical Infrastructure Division's Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisting with air monitoring, Incident Command staffing, and SCAT operations.

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**From:** Jonathan Walling <[jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Sunday, December 1, 2019 3:48 PM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 3: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

### **Update 3:**

The 4-mile radius evacuation around TPC was lifted, as of 10:00 a.m. November 29, 2019. There are currently no shelter-in-places or evacuations in effect. A designated safety zone has been established around the immediate fire area. Port Neches-Groves ISD classes were cancelled for December 2, 2019 and plans for classes to resume will be further evaluated December 1-2, 2019.

At approximately 11:30 p.m. on November 30, 2019, a distillation column fell on-site. No injuries were reported. No shelter-in-places or evacuations resulted from the column falling, but the on-scene Incident Command Post was relocated as a result. Currently, the fire is contained to approximately five visible spot fires. Firefighting water is being pumped from the LNVA Canal and the Neches River and is also being recycled, when possible, for firefighting needs. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. The plan is to steadily increase the amount of firefighting water as soon as the request to permit more wastewater to the WWTP is approved. There is also a developing plan that will continue to recirculate more firefighting water within the TPC site.

Wastewater is no longer flowing over Outfall 201 as of November 30, 2019. All water is now being treated at the WWTP prior to discharge. Pre-Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) evaluations are being conducted today, with SCAT planned to be conducted on December 2, 2019. Sheening has been noted in a wastewater canal adjacent to the facility. Water sampling will be conducted on December 1, 2019 by TCEQ Investigators.

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours/day throughout the area. On December 1, 2019, beginning at 12:49am, and sustaining throughout the morning, action-levels of 1,3-Butadiene were recorded at a maximum of 3.22 ppm at 12:49 a.m. by CTEH contractors (TPC) at the intersection of Hwy 366 and SH 166, Port Neches, TX (work area). The Strike Team was called in to confirm readings. NRC contractors (TCEQ) recorded a maximum reading of 0.52 ppm 1,3-Butadiene at 0.52 ppm from 2:12 a.m. to 2:25 a.m. in the same area (work area). The County Judge was notified of the 1,3-Butadiene readings at approximately 1:15am. Contractors (CTEH and NRC) continue to monitor the area. Readings above action levels have been documented throughout the morning at the intersection of Hwy 366/166, Port Neches, TX (within immediate work area) by CTEH and NRC contractors. No readings above action-levels of 1,3-Butadiene, PM, or VOCs have been detected outside of the immediate work area.

Asbestos monitoring and sampling began on November 27, 2019. The results from community asbestos air sampling from the first 48 hours have come back at non-detect levels. Asbestos monitoring will continue. Today, December 1, 2019, TPC contractors (CTEH) have asbestos swipe sampling capabilities ready and functional upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ receives will continue to be forwarded to TPC for further investigation. TPC contractors (CTEH) have coordinated with Port Neches-Groves ISD and will be working with them to conduct interior (all interior rooms) and exterior asbestos air monitoring prior to school resuming at the High School and Middle School. Asbestos debris removal continues today, December 1, 2019.

Plans including the Water Sampling Plan and the Environmental Sampling and Analysis Plan were approved December 1, 2019. The Debris Removal and Waste Management Plans are being drafted.

TCEQ staff continue to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, provide air monitoring and water quality monitoring/assessment teams. The DDC was stood down on November 29, 2019. Houston, Corpus Christi, and staff from TCEQ's Critical Infrastructure Division's Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisting with air monitoring, Incident Command staffing, and SCAT operations.

#### **Update 2:**

The 4-mile radius evacuation around TPC was lifted, as of 10:00 a.m. November 29, 2019. There are currently no shelter-in-places or evacuations in effect. A designated safety zone has been established around the immediate fire area.

Currently, the fire is contained to three spot fires in pressurized lines. Firefighting water is being pumped from the LNVA Canal and the Neches River for firefighting needs. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. The plan is to steadily increase the amount of firefighting water as soon as the request to permit more wastewater to the WWTP is approved. There is also a developing plan that will recirculate more firefighting water within the TPC site.

Breached Outfall 201 and impacted ditches from that breach continue to be monitored. 3000 feet of boom have been deployed. SCAT will begin on the impacted ditches December 1, 2019 (TPWD and GLO).

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours a day throughout the area. On November 30, 2019 at approximately 0535 hrs, TPC contractors (CTEH) had a hit of 1.0 ppm of 1,3-Butadiene (action level 0.5 ppm of 1,3 butadiene) near the intersection of Main Street and Grigsby in Port Neches. The Strike Team was deployed to verify readings, but could not replicate it. Contractors continue to monitor the area and no action-level hits have been documented.

Asbestos monitoring and sampling began on November 27, 2019. The results from community asbestos air sampling from the first 48 hours have come back at non-detect levels. Asbestos monitoring will continue. On December 1, 2019, TPC contractors (CTEH) will have asbestos swipe sampling capabilities ready and functional upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ has received will be forwarded to TPC for further investigation.

The Site Safety Plan was approved November 28, 2019. The Air Monitoring Plan was approved November 29, 2019. The Water Sampling Plan should be approved today, November 30, 2019. The Waste Management Plan is being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center and provide air monitoring teams. The DDC was stood down on November 29, 2019. Houston and Corpus Christi Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisted with air monitoring and Incident Command staffing.

#### **Update 1:**

The 4-mile radius evacuation around TPC has been lifted, as of 10:00 a.m. Friday, which affected approximately 45,000 people.

On Wednesday, November 27, 2019, several issues made containing and managing firefighting water problematic. Power was lost during one of the explosions, which meant that the Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (Joint WWTP) shared between TPC and Huntsman, was offline and could not accept firefighting water. The water was being held onsite by earthen dams around the facility. Because the area was highly explosive, it was unsafe to bring in frac tanks to collect the water. Eventually, Outfall 201 was breached at 6:23 p.m. on November 27, 2019. Outfall 201 leads through several drainage ditches and eventually reaches the Neches River. Sheening and product has been documented in various ditches; however, it has not reached the Neches River. Booms and skimmers have been deployed, as well as extra manpower to remove sheening and product.

Currently, the fire is contained to eight spot fires in different units inside TPC. This reduction in fire has meant a reduction in firefighting water. The Joint WWTP power was restored late on November 28, 2019, and is pumping firefighting water from the site at a reduced rate of 5000 gallons per minute; the firefighting efforts are producing approximately 20,000 gpm, so containing and managing firefighting water is still an issue, and water continues to escape through Outfall 201.

TCEQ teams, contractors, and the Civil Support Team continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours a day throughout the area. No action levels have been exceeded.

The Site Safety Plan was approved November 28, 2019. The Air Monitoring Plan and Water Sampling Plan should be approved today, November 29, 2019. The Waste Management Plan is being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, the Disaster District (DDC), and provide monitoring teams. Houston Disaster Response Strike Team members have been deployed to assist with air monitoring and Incident Command staffing.

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**From:** Sarah Kirksey <[Sarah.Kirksey@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Sarah.Kirksey@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Saturday, November 30, 2019 1:16 PM

**To:** Jonathan Walling <[jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:jonathan.walling@tceq.texas.gov)>; Cynthia Gandee <[Cynthia.Gandee@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Cynthia.Gandee@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Cc:** Sarah Kirksey <[Sarah.Kirksey@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Sarah.Kirksey@tceq.texas.gov)>; Kathy Saucedo <[Kathy.Saucedo@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Kathy.Saucedo@tceq.texas.gov)>; Jillian Layton <[Jillian.Layton@Tceq.Texas.Gov](mailto:Jillian.Layton@Tceq.Texas.Gov)>; Hope Davila <[Hope.Davila@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Hope.Davila@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Update 2: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident/Notification Report to State Legislators

Update 2:

The 4-mile radius evacuation around TPC was lifted, as of 10:00 a.m. November 29, 2019. There are currently no shelter-in-places or evacuations in effect. A designated safety zone has been established around the immediate fire area.

Currently, the fire is contained to three spot fires in pressurized lines. Firefighting water is being pumped from the LNVA Canal and the Neches River for firefighting needs. The Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is functioning and firefighting water is being pumped from the site at variable rates above 5,000 gallons per minute. The plan is to steadily increase the amount of firefighting water as soon as the request to permit more wastewater to the WWTP is approved. There is also a developing plan that will recirculate more firefighting water within the TPC site.

Breached Outfall 201 and impacted ditches from that breach continue to be monitored. 3000 feet of boom have been deployed. SCAT will begin on the impacted ditches December 1, 2019 (TPWD and GLO).

TCEQ teams and contractors continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours a day throughout the area. On November 30, 2019 at approximately 0535 hrs, TPC contractors (CTEH) had a hit of 1.0 ppm of 1,3-Butadiene (action level 0.5 ppm of 1,3 butadiene) near the intersection of Main Street and Grigsby in Port Neches. The Strike Team was deployed to verify readings, but could not replicate it. Contractors continue to monitor the area and no action-level hits have been documented.

Asbestos monitoring and sampling began on November 27, 2019. The results from community asbestos air sampling from the first 48 hours have come back at non-detect levels. Asbestos monitoring will continue. On December 1, 2019, TPC contractors (CTEH) will have asbestos swipe sampling capabilities ready and functional upon request by complainants. Asbestos complaints that the TCEQ has received will be forwarded to TPC for further investigation.

The Site Safety Plan was approved November 28, 2019. The Air Monitoring Plan was approved November 29, 2019. The Water Sampling Plan should be approved today, November 30, 2019. The Waste Management Plan is being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center and provide air monitoring teams. The DDC was stood down on November 29, 2019. Houston and Corpus Christi Disaster Response Strike Team members have been assisted with air monitoring and Incident Command staffing.

Update 1:

The 4-mile radius evacuation around TPC has been lifted, as of 10:00 a.m. Friday, which affected approximately 45,000 people.

On Wednesday, November 27, 2019, several issues made containing and managing firefighting water problematic. Power was lost during one of the explosions, which meant that the Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (Joint WWTP) shared between TPC and Huntsman, was offline and could not accept firefighting water. The water was being held onsite by earthen dams around the facility. Because the area was highly explosive, it was unsafe to bring in frac tanks to collect the water. Eventually, Outfall 201 was breached at 6:23 p.m. on November 27, 2019. Outfall 201 leads through several drainage ditches and eventually reaches the Neches River. Sheening and product has been documented in various ditches; however, it has not reached the Neches River. Booms and skimmers have been deployed, as well as extra manpower to remove sheening and product.

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TCEQ teams, contractors, and the Civil Support Team continue to conduct air monitoring 24 hours a day throughout the area. No action levels have been exceeded.

The Site Safety Plan was approved November 28, 2019. The Air Monitoring Plan and Water Sampling Plan should be approved today, November 29, 2019. The Waste Management Plan is being drafted.

The region continues to staff the Incident Command/Emergency Operation Center, the Disaster District (DDC), and provide monitoring teams. Houston Disaster Response Strike Team members have been deployed to assist with air monitoring and Incident Command staffing.

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**From:** Kathy Saucedo <[Kathy.Saucedo@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Kathy.Saucedo@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 27, 2019 4:30 AM

**To:** HSNotify <[HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:HSNotify@tceq.texas.gov)>; IGR <[IGR@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:IGR@tceq.texas.gov)>

**Subject:** Initial:: Fire / R10 / TPC Port Neches Operations / Port Neches, Jefferson County - Notification of Significant Incident

**Notification Status:** Initial

General Incident Information

**Type of Incident:** Fire / Explosion

**Date:** November 27, 2019

**Time Incident Started:** 1:00 a.m.

**Time TCEQ Notified:** The Beaumont Region was made aware (staff woke up from explosion) of an explosion and subsequent fire located in the Port Neches area (Jefferson County) at the TPC Port Neches Operations.

**TCEQ Region:** Region 10 – Beaumont

Responsible Party (RP)/Regulated Entity Information/Incident Location

**RP/Regulated Entity Name:** TPC Port Neches Operations

**RN Number (if available):** RN104964267

**Street Address:** Located at the NW Corner of the Intersection of FM366 and Spur 136

**City:** Port Neches

**County:** Jefferson County

**RP Contact Name and Information:** Mr. Mike Miller, PNO Production Manager, (409) 724-4917

#### Specific Incident Information

**Description of Event/Cause:** There was an explosion / fire at TPC Port Neches Operations located in Port Neches, Jefferson County. The cause is unknown. This facility manufactures 1-3 Butadiene and Raffinate. Multiple fire departments are responding to the active fire. Mr. Mike White, Jefferson County EMC, stated that they are in the process of calling for a ½ mile radius evacuation from the facility. In addition, a shelter-in-place has been issued by the Orange County Judge for citizens south of I-10 in Orange County. No additional information is known at this time.

**Material Released:** 1-3 Butadiene and other unknowns

**Amount Released (estimated):** Unknown

**Affected Media:** Air/Land/Stormwater

**Injuries or Fatalities:** Mr. White, Jefferson County EMC, stated that there were injuries; however, he did not know how many or the extent of the injuries at this time.

**Other Risks:** There have been reports that the fire is very close to the pressurized tanks that are located at the site.

#### Current Response

**TCEQ Response:** The Beaumont office is calling staff to the office to calibrate air monitoring equipment and prepare to go into the neighborhoods to conduct air monitoring once a safe perimeter is established. Hope Davila, Beaumont Emergency Response Coordinator, is at the incident command.

**TCEQ Responder Name and Contact Information:** Hope Davila, 409-791-7296

**Incident Commander Name and Contact Information:** Unknown

**Emergency Response Contractor Information:** Williams Fire has been contracted by the RE

**Other Federal, State, or Local Authorities on Site:** EPA Contractor is enroute, The National Weather Service in Lake Charles, Louisiana is assisting with plume modeling, and Texas Department of Public Safety

#### Other Pertinent Information, If Available

**Weather:** Fair 76 degrees Fahrenheit

**Wind Direction:** Calm

**Potentially Impacted Receptors:** Downwind neighborhoods and other Petrochemical Facilities

**Local News Media:** Local news stories can be found at the following links:

<https://www.12newsnow.com/article/news/local/explosion-fire-burning-at-port-neches-plant-early-monday/502-de236827-a796-48f7-ac55-fad5064c3c8b>

[https://www.facebook.com/KFDMNews/videos/breaking-tpc-plant-explosion-in-port-neches/1813119148831422/?\\_so=\\_discover&\\_rv=\\_top\\_live](https://www.facebook.com/KFDMNews/videos/breaking-tpc-plant-explosion-in-port-neches/1813119148831422/?_so=_discover&_rv=_top_live)

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/27/us/port-neches-plant-explosion/index.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/11/27/us/texas-explosion-port-neches-tpc.html>

